

EARTH, AIR AND  
WATER STUDIES

SANDY GELLIS

These are the reasons why I enter her work.  
To feel afraid of my bodily sensuality.  
To tame my eyes and to remember the  
knowledge gained through my skin.  
To question how I explore the world; what do  
I gather and how do I touch it.  
To envision cities where the effects of time as  
etched by air and water have regained their  
place in the vernacular of making.  
To stand in an ethic where decay is accepted  
in knowledgeable and even caring ways.  
Glenn Weiss

I would like to thank all who helped make possible EARTH, AIR AND WATER STUDIES at Storefront for Art and Architecture, WIND GARDEN at Petrosino Park and LAND AND THE ELEMENTS: PRINTS at Luise Ross Gallery.

PHOTOGRAPHY: Karen Bell, Edward Claycomb, Sandy Gellis

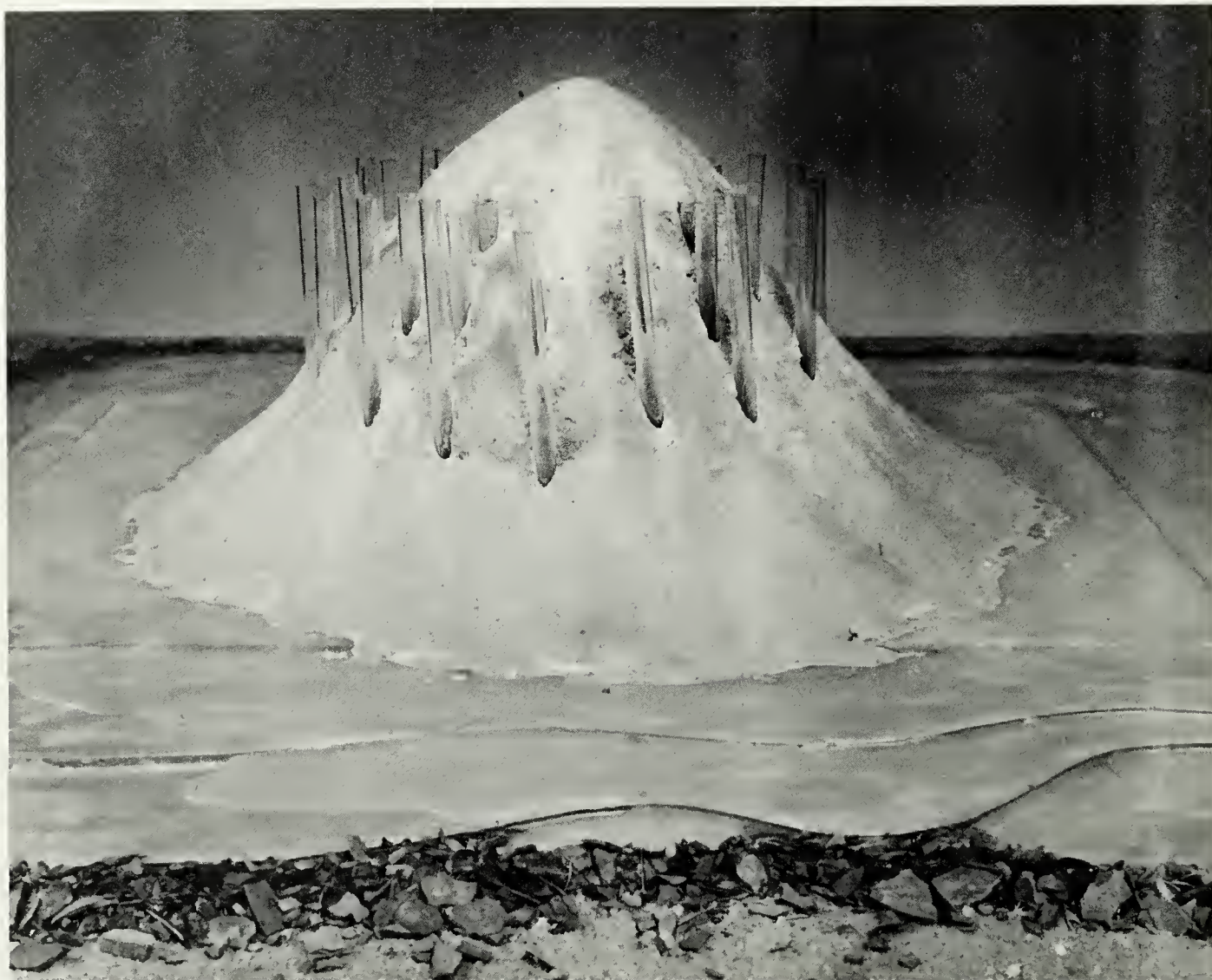
CATALOG: Jane Dodds, Lorraine Craig, Sharon Brant, Glenn Weiss, George Kampos

EXHIBITIONS: Storefront for Art and Architecture: Kyong Park, Shirin Neshat, Jane Dodds, Scott Guerin; Luise Ross; Lower Manhattan Cultural Council: Jenny Dixon; Julie D'Amario; Lynn Rogan; Veronica Rodriguez; Nina D'Amario; Laurant Gerard; Alan Finkel; Nancy Welch.

# EARTH, AIR AND WATER STUDIES

The following earth, air and water studies were  
done over the last 6 years.

Sandy Gellis

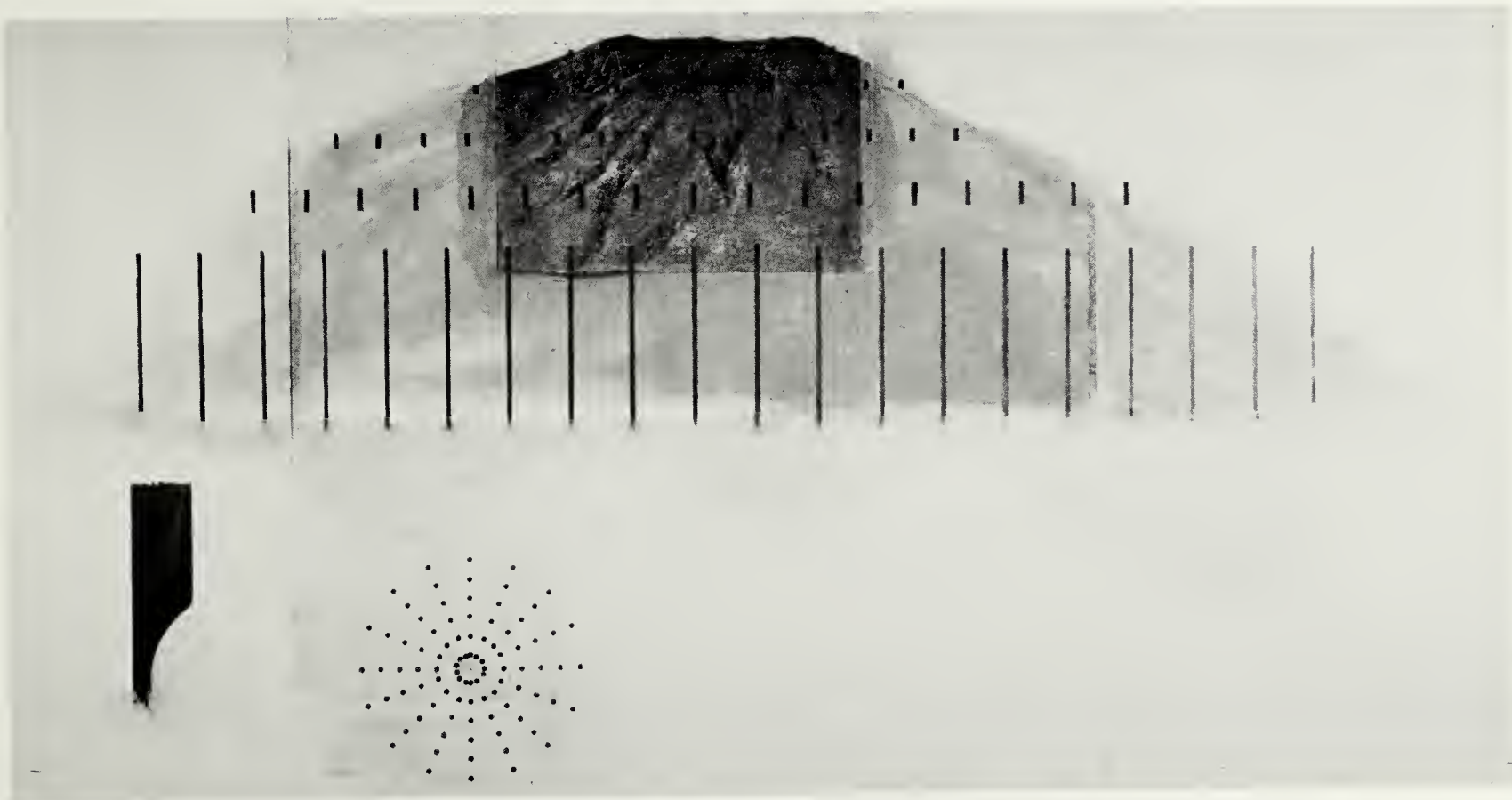


RAIN CHANNELS

scale: 1 inch = 4 feet

sand, glass, wax and shale.

36 inches x 36 inches x 9 inches



## RAIN CHANNELS

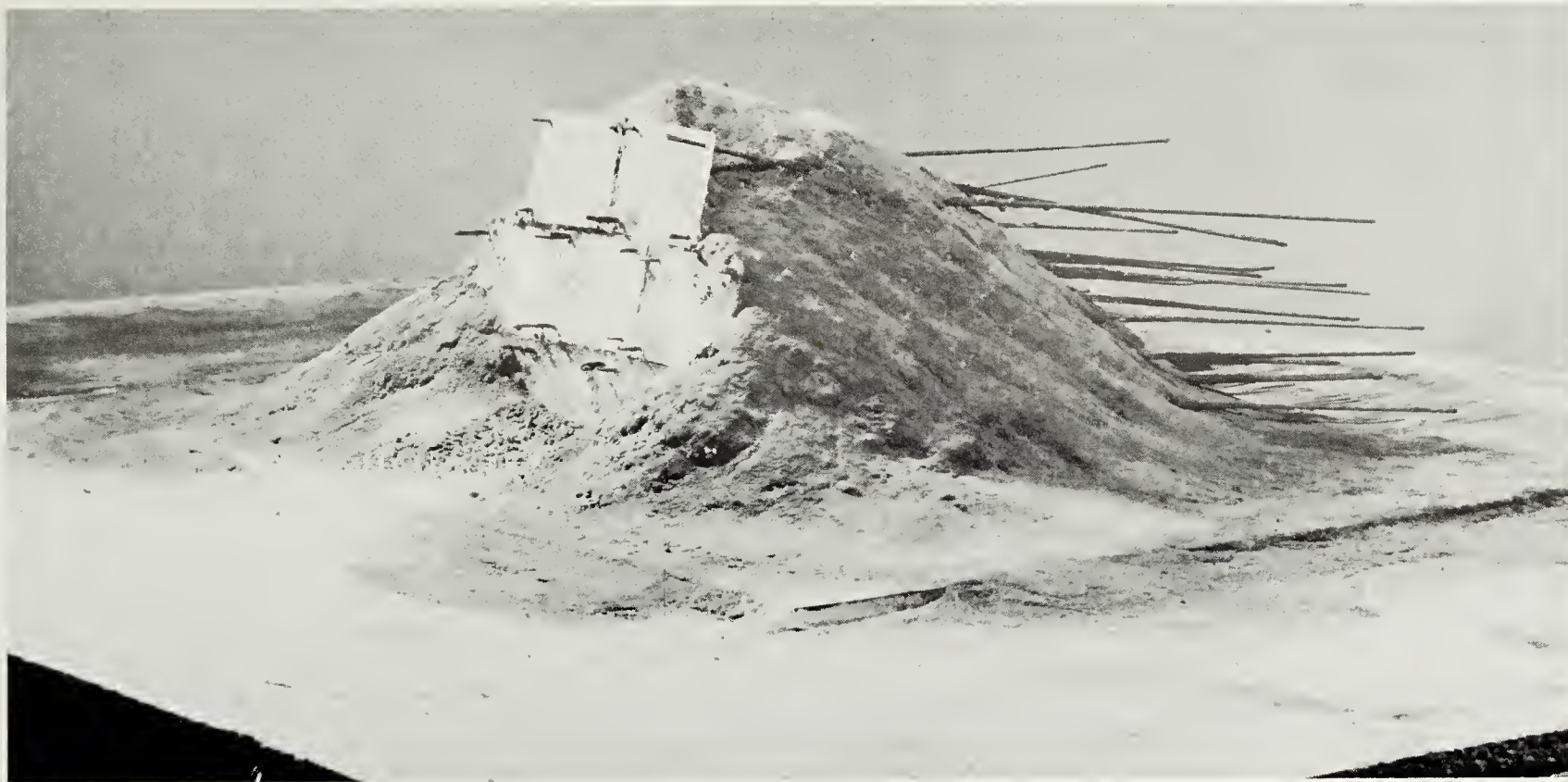
Rain Channels is a mound of gravel 30 feet high with an internal structure of glass tubes radiating out from its center. Most of the tubes are exposed to gather rainfall. The base of each is cut away to allow the accumulated water to flow out. A 4-foot wall contains the water. Eventually an island oasis will form.





MOUND, GLASS WALL, IRON RODS

photograph, graphite and powdered pigment on paper. 50 inches x 44 inches



### MOUND, GLASS WALL, IRON RODS

scale: 1 inch = 1 foot

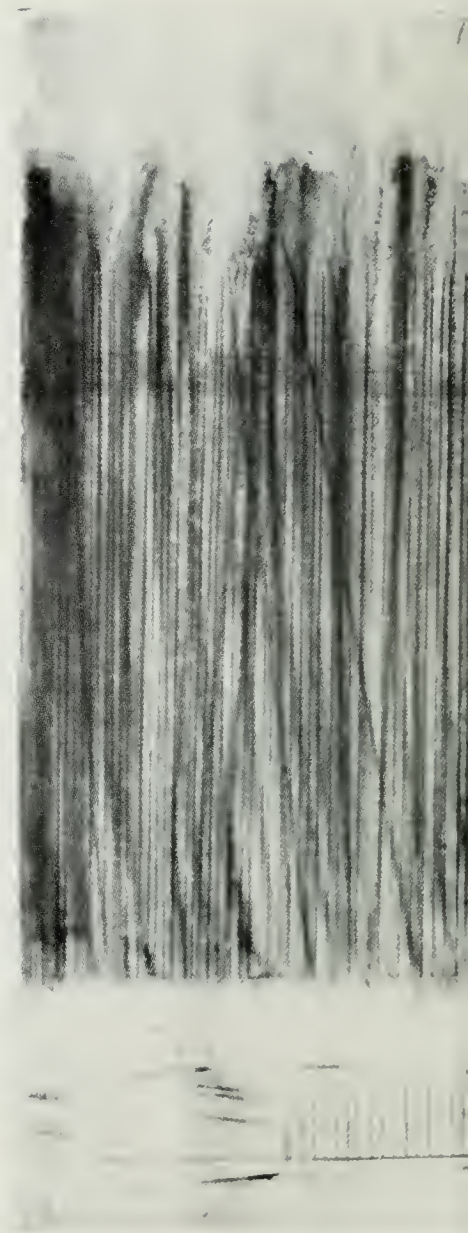
This mound was originally seen at a gravel pit in Baltimore, Maryland, but it can be near any quarry. A loose mound of marble sand 100 feet high contained by two walls. One wall is segments of glass, each 4 feet x 6 feet. The glass is held in place by iron rods piercing through each corner. These rods penetrate the mound coming out the other side forming the second wall of pointed tips of iron.

marble, iron and glass.

48 inches x 38 inches x 8 inches

SITE: CURTIS BAY, MARYLAND

Curtis Bay is a site overused by people. This project would restore it by restricting its use. In the high reeds, which grow naturally in the bay, iron rods would be placed, effectively preventing further recreational use of the site. Beyond the bay is a garbage dump site that would be covered with black slag, also preventing further usage. By inserting the rods and covering the dump, people would be excluded from the site until an ecological balance is restored.





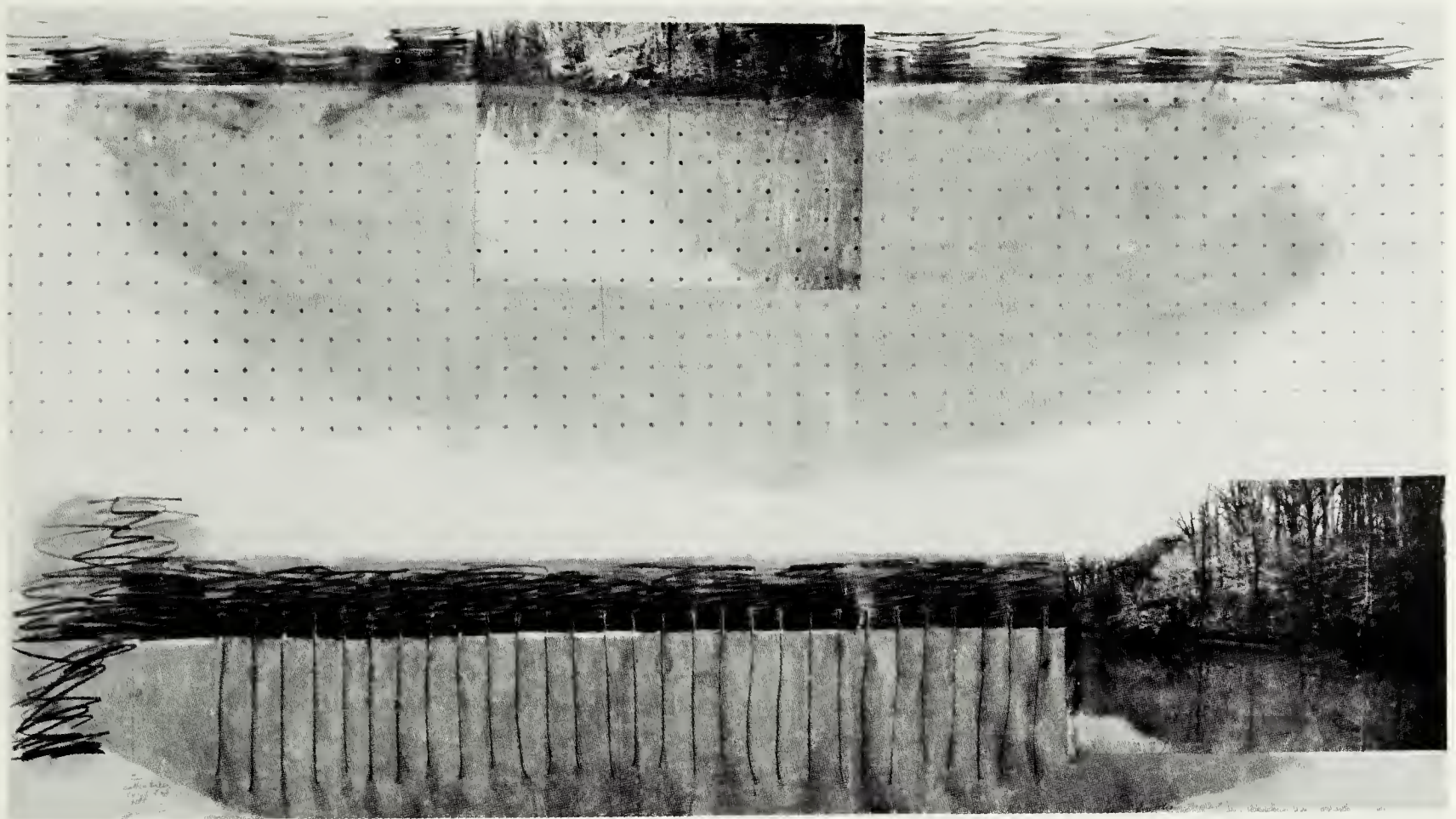




## NEW LAKE

New Lake and Implant are proposals made in response to the over use of Lake Rowland and the wooded area surrounding it. In New Lake a layer of transparent material is placed 3 feet above the ground, paralleling it, and covering the wooded area around the lake. This will allow new growth to form both above and below, protecting the environment for a while.



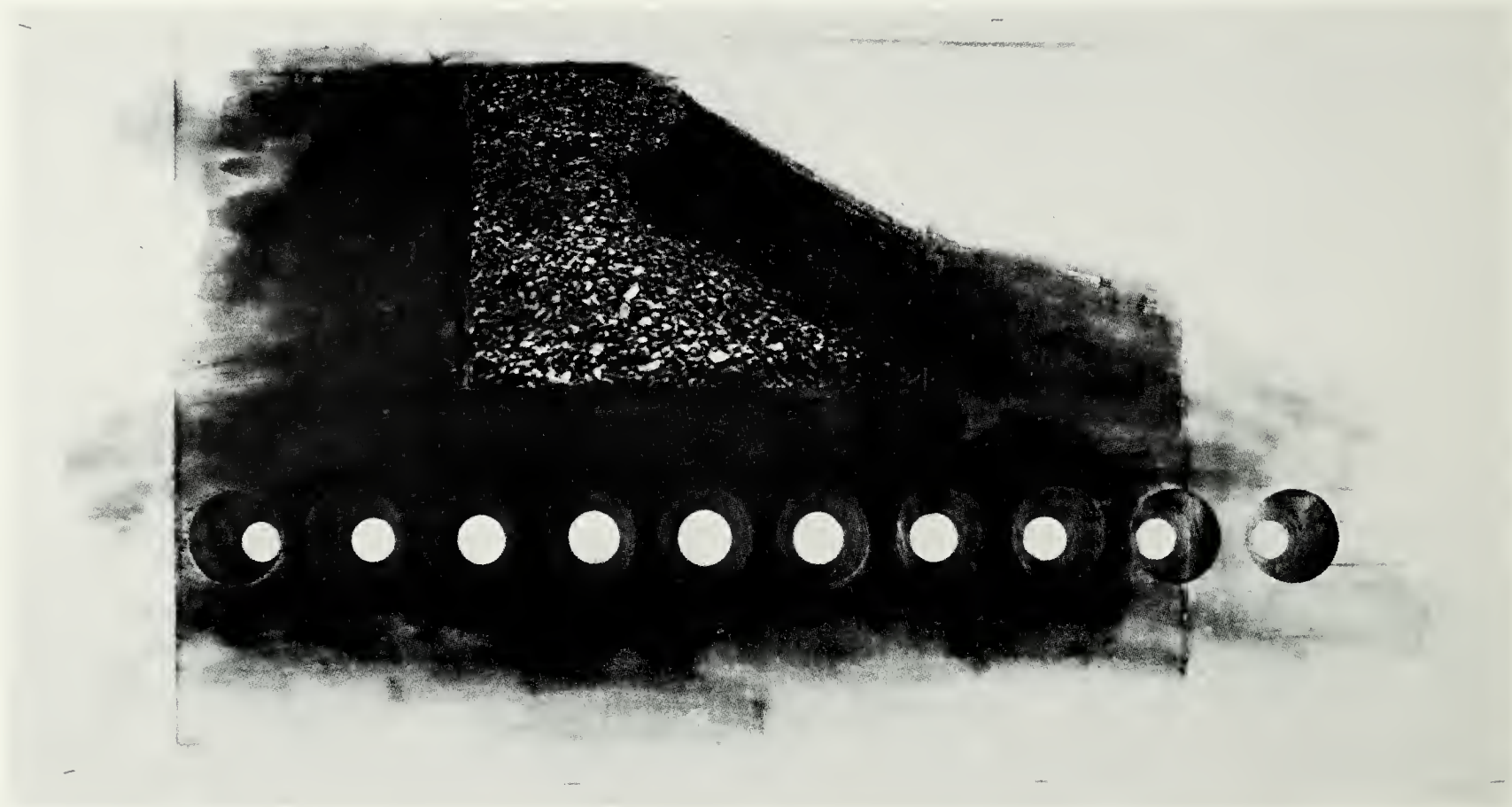


## IMPLANT

The entire expanse of lake in a grid. Buoys at each intersection suspend 8-foot vinyl tubes filled with absorbent cotton. This acts as a concentrated environment, incubating the lake water and its contents.

photograph, graphite and powdered pigment on paper.

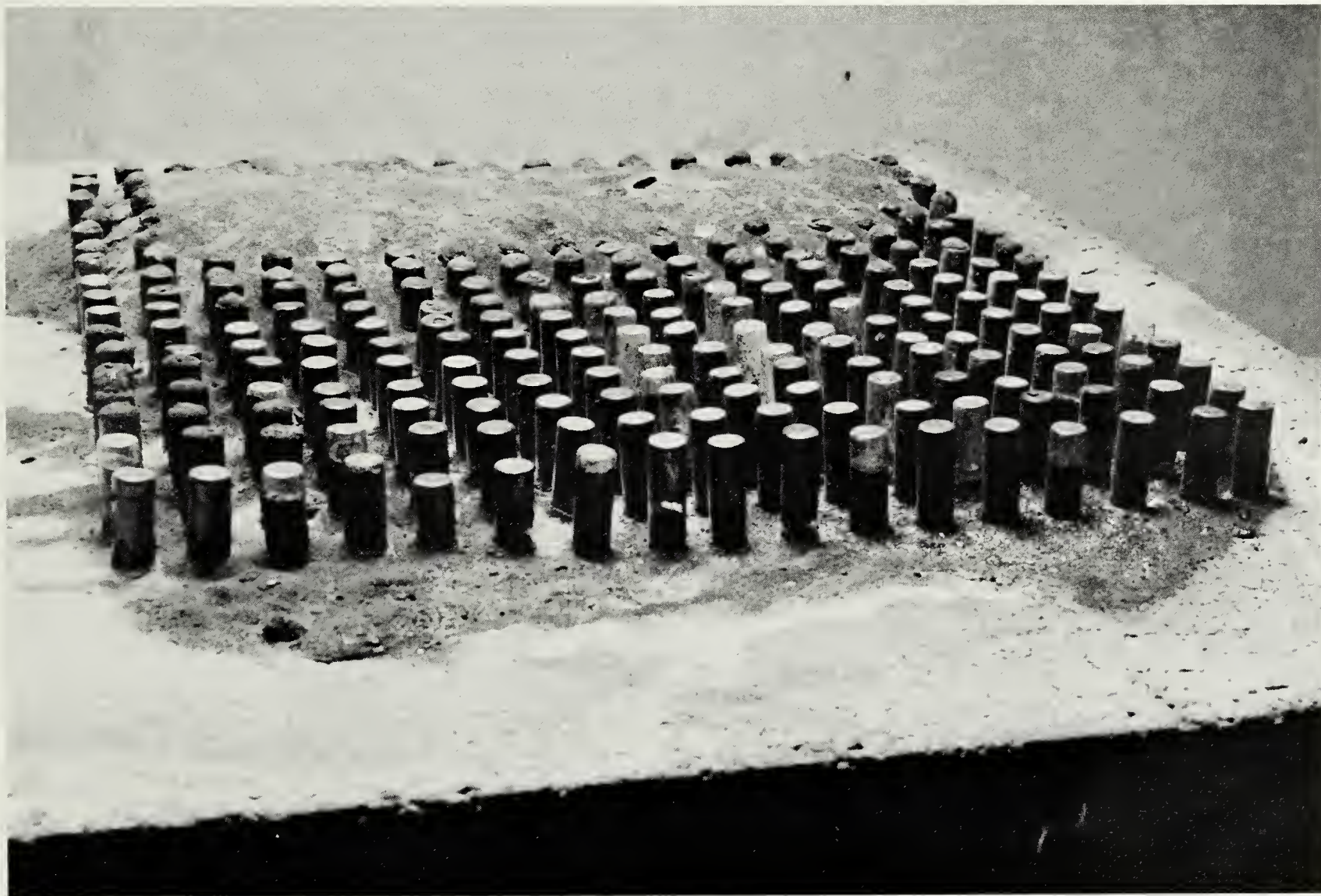
43 inches x 75 inches



### CRAWL SPACE

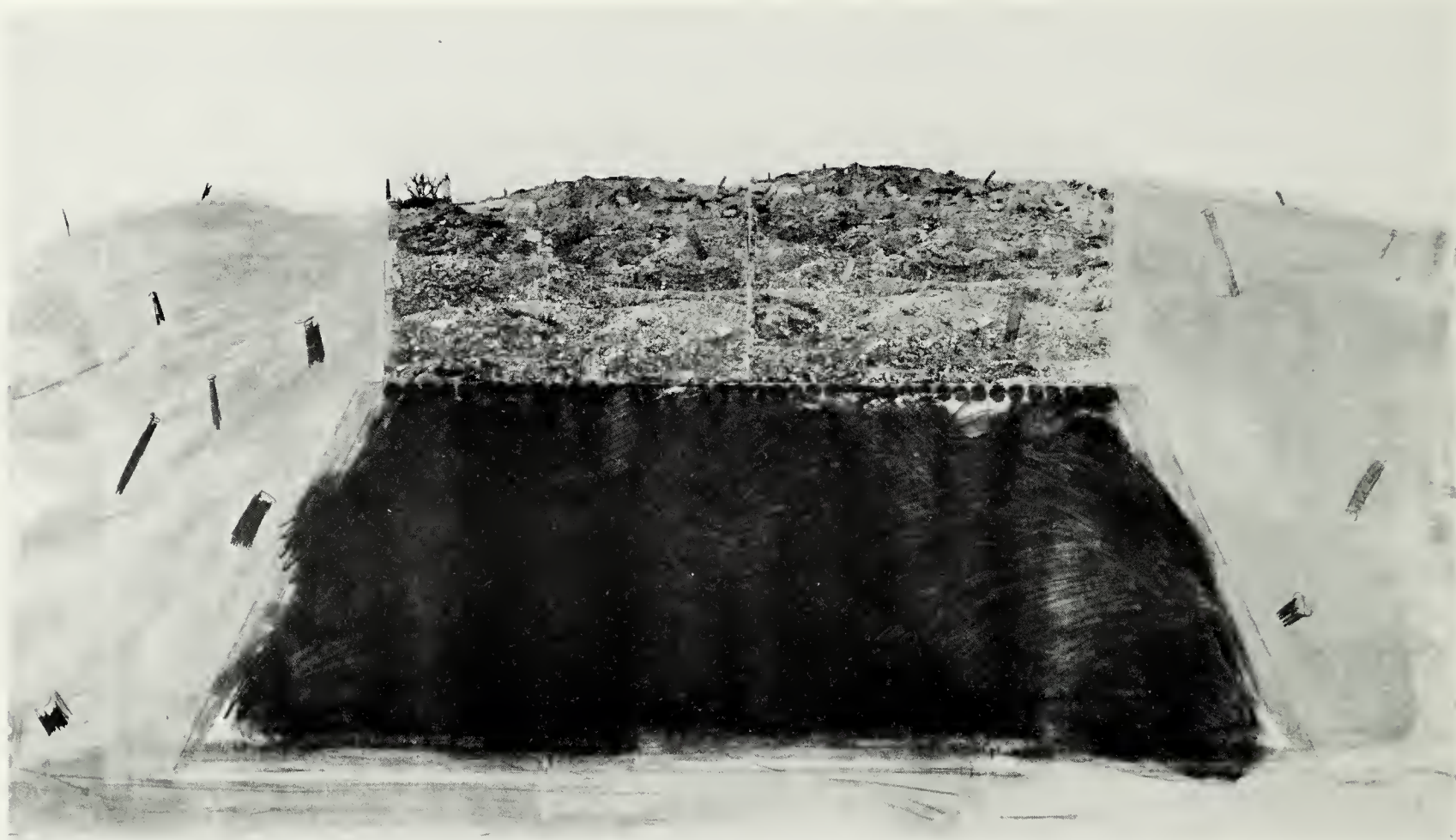
Crawl Space is a shelter, combining natural and processed iron. A loose mound of iron fragments 30 feet high by 64 feet long enclosing 10 drain pipes. These pipes are also made of iron, placed 4 feet above the base of the mound, each having a 4-foot diameter.





GLASS COLUMNS  
iron, glass and cement.

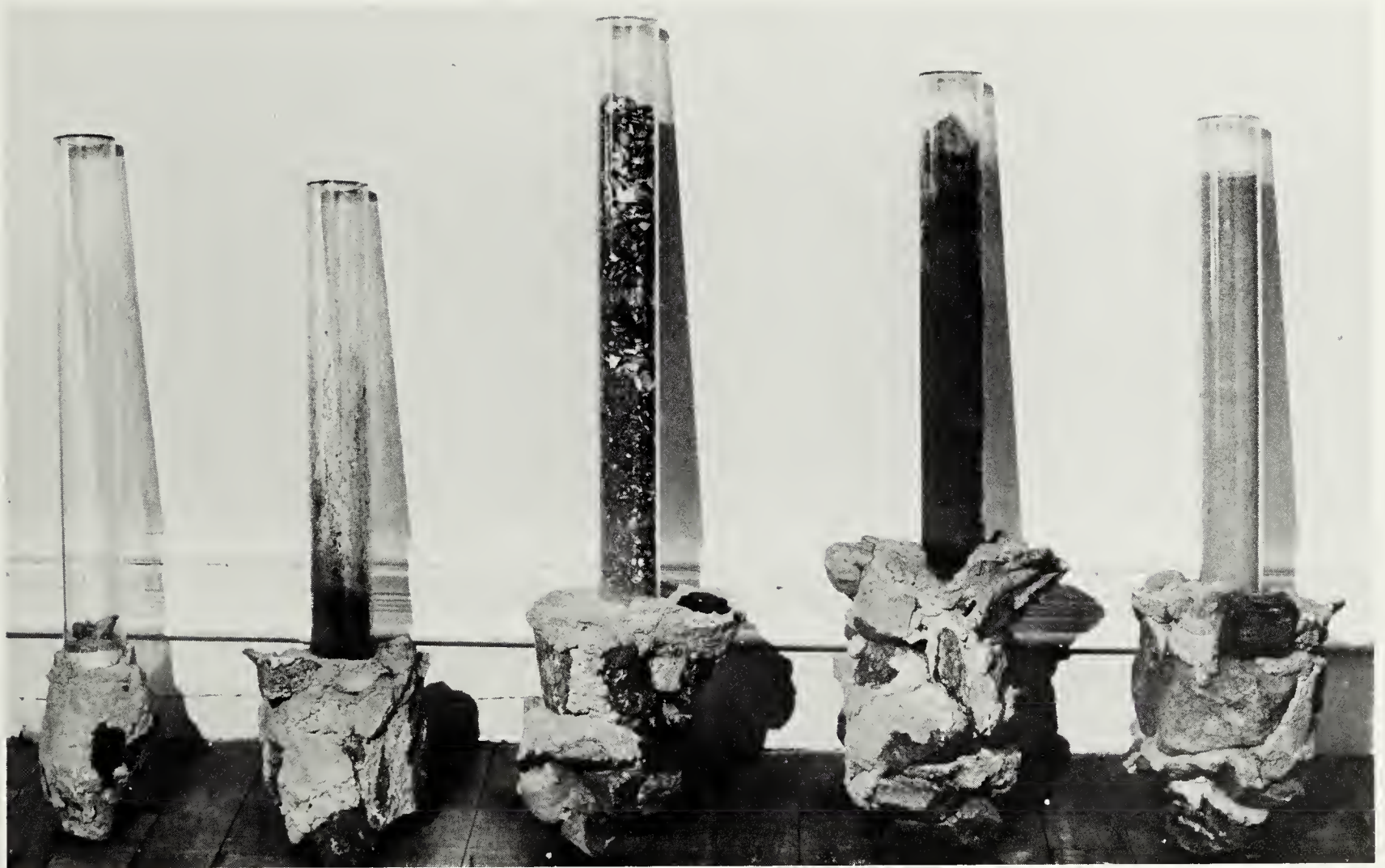
scale: 1 inch = 4 feet  
24 inches x 27 inches x 10 inches



## TIME VAULT

Time Vault is situated at a site in Maryland that was mined for gravel and abandoned. The piece would function as a communal time capsule with each person in the nearby community having a pipe that feeds into a covered pit. People would use “their” pipes to store things of importance throughout their lives, and the pit would accumulate these things, becoming a ready made site for future archeologists.





BATTERY PARK LANDFILL FRAGMENTS

air, water, sand, rock shell , cement and plexiglass tubes.

32 inches x 60 inches

# **STOREFRONT** for Art & Architecture

97 Kenmare Street New York, NY 10012

September 19, 1989  
to October 14, 1989